Fixation of Royalty for minerals

1763. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for fixation of royalties for minerals;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to unilateral fixation of royalty Government of Bihar is to loose more than 300 crore of rupees per year;

(c) whether it is also a fact that coal producing States, specially Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa are demanding that royalty should be fixed as per prices of the mineral; and

(d) if so, what steps Government are taking in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Rates of royalty on minerals other than minor minerals are prescribed as far as possible on a flat rate per unit weight arrived at on the basis or value of that mineral.

(b) For the purpose of fixed of royalty rates on minerals other than coal, lignite and sand for stowing and minor minerals, a Study Group was constituted by the Ministry of Mines wherein representatives of major mineral producing States and concerned agencies were included as members. The Study Group through a questionaire had sought to elicit information and suggestions on revision of royalty and dead rent from all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to which most of them including Government of Bihar had responded. The Study Group has made appropriate recommendations to the Government for revision of royalty rates after considering the suggestions made by all concerned. The rerommendations of the Study Group are under consideration. The question of unilateral fixation of royalty and resultant loss to Government of Bihar, therefore, does not arise.

(c) and (d) Although the coal producing States have demanded fixation of royalty on coal on advalorem basis, their request has not been agreed to.

Rajasthan areas under National Capital Region

1764. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the areas of Rajasthan included in the National Capital Region Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): The following areas of Rajasthan are included in the National Capital Region Plan:

(i) The whole of the following Tehsils of Alwar District, namely, Behrcor Mandawar, Kishangarh, Tijara, Alwar and Ramgarh.

(ii) Kota Town as Counter-magnet area.

Water Racket in Delhi

1765. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 12th August, 1991 regarding well organised racket of selling to commercial establishments run by DDA and MCD thousands of litres of pure water tankers meant for the resettlement colonies and Jhuggi clusters in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what remedial action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both Delhi Development Authority (Slum Wing) and Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking have reported that no such instance of illegal selling of water to ice factories and other have come to their notice. However, it is